

REMARKS

The Office Action of September 1, 2010, has been carefully studied. Claims 19-23 currently appear in this application. These claims define novel and unobvious subject matter under Sections 102 and 103 of 35 U.S.C., and therefore should be allowed. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and formal allowance of the claims.

Claim Amendments

Claims 1-18 are now cancelled. Claim 3 has been rewritten as new claim 19. Claim 13 has been rewritten as new claim 22. Claim 14 has been rewritten a new claim 23.

Allowable subject matter

Claims 3, 13 and 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, claims 2, 13 and 14 have been rewritten as claims 19, 22 and 23, respectively. The remaining new claims contain all of the limitations of the allowable claims.

Art Rejections

Claims 1, 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peiffer et al., US 5,716,570 in view of Kegasawa et al., US 2002/0112813.

As claims 1, 2 and 4 have been cancelled, this rejection is now moot.


Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peiffer and Kegasawa in view of Thompson, US 4,272,312.

As claim 6 has been cancelled by the present amendment, this rejection is now moot.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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